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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

26096

7590

01/09/2004

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C. 400 WEST MAPLE ROAD SUITE 350 BIRMINGHAM, MI 48009 EXAMINER MCHENRY, KEVIN L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1725

DATE MAILED: 01/09/2004

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/779 961 | 02/09/2001 | Joseph Melekian | 60,130-930 | 7580 |

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD FOR WELDING AN AXLE HOUSING

| APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE | PUBLICATION FEE | TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE |
|----------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|------------------|------------|
| nonprovisional | NO | \$1330 | \$300 | \$1630 | 04/09/2004 |

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status.
 See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
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(703) 746-4000 or <u>Fax</u>

| appropriate. All further c indicated unless corrected maintenance fee notificati | orrespondence including the P l below or directed otherwise ons. | in Block 1, by (a) | specifying a new co | or maintenance lees orrespondence addres | will be mailed to the current (ss; and/or (b) indicating a separ | rate "FEE ADDRESS" for |
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| 26096 | 7590 01/09/2004 | | | | • | |
| 400 WEST MAP SUITE 350 | | | | I hereby certify that States Postal Service | ertificate of Mailing or Transi this Fee(s) Transmittal is being e with sufficient postage for firs ail Stop ISSUE FEE address SPTO, on the date indicated belo | deposited with the United to class mail in an envelope |
| BIRMINGHAM, | MI 48009 | | | | | (Depositor's name) |
| | | | | | | (Signature) |
| | | | | | | (Date) |
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| EXA | AMINER | ART UNI | T CI | ASS-SUBCLASS | | |
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| estimated to take 12 m completed application case. Any comments suggestions for reducir Patent and Trademar 22313-1450. DO NO SEND TO: Commissio | mation is required by 37 CFR fit by the public which is to fallity is governed by 35 U.S.C. I inutes to complete, including g form to the USPTO. Time with the mount of time you ge this burden, should be sent k Office, U.S. Department SEND FEES OR COMPLE ner for Patents, Alexandria, Vir. Reduction Act of 1995, no promptes it displays a valid OM | Il vary depending require to complet to the Chief Infom of Commerce, A TED FORMS TO ginia 22313-1450. | to the individual to this form and/or nation Officer, U.S. lexandria, Virginia THIS ADDRESS. | ; | | |



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| | | | DATE MAILED: 01/00/2004 | 4 |

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 48 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 48 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (703) 305-1383. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.